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EX PARTE

Marlene Dortch Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, DC 20554

Re: Implementation of Section 621(a)(1) of the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984 as Amended by the Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992, MB Docket No. 05-311

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On April 20, 2006, Dee May, David Young, Will Johnson and Leora Hochstein met with Donna Gregg, Chief of the Media Bureau, and the following members of her staff: Rosemary Harold, William Johnson, Deborah Klein, Mary Beth Murphy, John B. Norton, Mike Lance, Natalie Roisman, Brendan Murray, Holly Saurer, and Priscilla Lee. We discussed two issues included in our comments in the above referenced proceeding: (1) the time period by which local franchising authorities (LFAs) should be required to act on a franchise application and (2) build-out requirements.

Regarding the time period for acting on a franchise, we suggested that if an LFA fails to either grant or deny a franchise within four months of the initiation of negotiations, the new entrant should be permitted to begin offering video service to customers (although negotiations towards a final franchise with the LFA could continue). On the issue of build-out requirements, we stated that competitive providers should be permitted to define their own franchise areas, provided that such areas are consistent with the Cable Act. We used the attached documents to demonstrate that Verizon upgrades to fiber on a wire center basis, and explained that those wire centers do not correspond to LFA boundaries.

Sincerely,

Attachment

Leon Hondot













